

South Carolina
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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PROTECTING CONSUMERS SINCE 1975

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CREDIT COUNSELING 2021 CPE COURSES October 14, 2021

On March 13, 2020, Governor Henry McMaster declared a state of emergency for the State of South Carolina due to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). On June 23, 2020, the Department of Consumer Affairs (Department) issued the following guidance regarding credit counselors' continuing professional education (CPE):

Due to the difficulty of attending live CPE events and a desire to prevent further transmission of the COVID-19 virus, licensed consumer credit counselors whose CPE reporting is due December 31, 2020, are not required to complete six hours in a live instructional setting. Credit counselor licensees are still required to complete 12 hours of CPE, and they must submit their reporting forms to the Department before their licenses will be renewed. The current reporting form is found here.

To facilitate the completion of professional education for 2021 during the ongoing pandemic, the Department will extend its guidance regarding CPE reporting as follows:

- The Department will provide CPE credit for qualified webinars it hosts for the public.
 - o **Future webinars:** In October 2021, the Department will send out notices for webinars it is hosting which qualify for credit counseling CPE credit for the 2021 reporting year. Upcoming webinars are also posted on the Department's website. Visit www.consumer.sc.gov, hover over News and click on Upcoming Presentations.
 - o **Past webinars:** If you were unable to attend the live webinar, the Department can provide a link to watch the recorded webinar at a later time. Please contact Stacy Staley at sstaley@scconsumer.gov for the link.
- The Department will also offer <u>two</u> credit counseling-specific webinars in October and November. These can be watched live or recorded as well. The information regarding these webinars will be posted on the credit counseling page on our website by October 8, 2021.

To receive CPE credit when you watch individually, you must login with your information to allow the Department to maintain a record of your attendance. Alternatively, if multiple people watch the live or recorded webinars together at a single terminal, a proctor will be required to complete the registration form found here.

The Department will provide a CPE completion form on our website. All CPE completed must be entered on the form and submitted to the Department in time for licensees' renewal.

See page two for a list of Department webinars that qualify for CPE credit.

PUBLIC CONSUMER LEGAL/ CONSUMER ID THEFT PROCUREMENT & ADMINISTRATOR INFORMATION ADVOCACY LICENSING **COMPLAINTS** UNIT ACCOUNTING Tel.: (803) 734-4200 Tel.: (803) 434-4200 Tel.: (803) 734-4233 Tel.: (803) 734-4296 Tel.: (803) 734-0046 Tel.: (803) 734-4200 Tel.: (803) 734-4264

Toll Free in SC: (800) 922-1594 TDD/TYY: (800) 735-2905



Department Webinars Approved for 2021 CPE Credit

May 20, 2020 - Consumer Protection and Law

May 27, 2020 - Identity Theft and Investment Fraud

May 29, 2020 - Credit Report Myths

March 4, 2021 - Credit Reports and Score Demystified

October 12, 2021 – Cybersecurity for Small Businesses

October 13, 2021 – Financial Identity Theft and ID Theft Protection Act for Consumers

October 19, 2021 – Security Breaches and Information Security for the Insurance Industry

October 26, 2021 – Bank and Payment App Security